

Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP)

All-Panel Meeting

January 19, 2012

8:00 am to 4:30 pm

Location	Yanke Family Research Park, Room 510 220 East Parkcenter Boulevard, Boise, ID 83706		
SEAP Executive Committee	Judy Randleman, SEAP Chairperson Amanda Holloway, SEAP Vice-Chairperson Tom Falash, SEAP Secretary	Recorder	Jan Gaylord

Voting Members – (present at meeting X, conference call C, absent at meeting left blank)							
X	Keith Allred	X	Donna Farmer		Casey Moyer	X	Miren Unsworth
	Dalene Banks	X	Robin Greenfield	X	Judy Randleman		Therese Varela
X	Alicia Caiola		Margaret Gross	X	Jodi Schilling		
C	Beth Eloee-Reep	X	Nanna Hanchett		Karen Seay		
X	Thomas Falash	X	Amanda Holloway		Kevin Swearingen		

Non-Voting Members – (present at meeting X, conference call C, absent at meeting left blank)		
X	Matt Hyde	SDE Parent Involvement Coordinator
X	Jan Gaylord	SDE Administrative Assistant

Presenters – (present at meeting X, conference call C, absent at meeting left blank)		
C	Richard (Rich) Henderson	SDE Special Education Director
X	Dr. Richard O'Dell	SDE Quality Assurance and Reporting Coordinator
X	Dr. Melanie Reese	SDE Dispute Resolution Coordinator
X	Lester Wyer	SDE Funding and Accountability Coordinator

Guests (agency-related) – (present at meeting X, conference call C, absent at meeting left blank)		
X	Angela Lindig	Idaho Parents Unlimited (IPUL)
C	Brian Darcy	Idaho Bureau of Educational Services for the Deaf and the Blind (IESDB)

Agenda Items

Welcome and Introductions	<i>Judy Randleman, SEAP Chairperson</i>
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Judy welcomed all and gave introductions. Nanna Hanchett replaced Bruce Christopherson on the panel, representing Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (IDVR). Dalene Banks was unable to attend due to weather conditions in Lewiston. Rich Henderson, Beth Eloee-Reep, and Brian Darcy attended via the GoToMeeting conference call, hosted by Rich.

SDE Welcome & Overview	<i>Rich Henderson, SDE Special Education Director</i>
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Rich will cover the Verification Visit by OSEP, Idaho Results Work, and the ESEA Flexibility Application.

Nick Smith was recently named the Deputy Superintendent of the Federal Programs Division. Rich had previously filled that position as Interim Deputy. Rich reviewed the position and responsibilities of the new Quality Assurance and Reporting Coordinator, Dr. Richard O'Dell. Rich is now searching for a Special Populations Coordinator.

December 2011 OSEP Visit	<i>Rich Henderson, SDE Special Education Director</i>
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[Handout: SDE Update - SEAP Meeting 1-19-12](#)

OSEP Visit 2011

The OSEP visit for SDE (December 5-8, 2011) consisted of Compliance Verification (3 days) and Results Work (1 day).

- Rich covered the Verification Highlights and the Verification Issues. The outcomes are unofficial, and we are waiting to receive a formal letter from OSEP. Rich also reviewed the Idaho RESULTS Work.
- Next steps involve correcting items from the OSEP visit, working on state MOE discussions, incorporating stakeholder input into the Results plan, and merging Platform Audit and OSEP findings.

Questions/Comments

- Nanna asked how Idaho compared to other states. Rich shared that Idaho rated very well overall and was not at the bottom.
- Judy asked if Rich's presentation will be available on Idaho Training Clearinghouse (ITC). Rich said yes.
- Jodi asked Rich how he produced the Results piece. Rich gave more clarification on the Idaho Results Goal.

Growth: Measuring Idaho's Students	<i>Rich Henderson, SDE Special Education Director</i>
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[Handout: Growth: Measuring Idaho's Students](#)

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Growth Model

Rich covered the Growth Model presentation developed by Dr. Carissa Miller, Deputy Superintendent of the 21st Century Classroom Division. Information on the Colorado Growth Model, calculating growth, school and district reporting, and Idaho's accountability system was given. Rich also showed the 1-5 Star Rating system for Districts and Schools to promote accountability. Rich and Dr. Miller want to take the Growth Model and plug Idaho districts into the chart to see how they are doing.

Rich requested SEAP's input/comments/feedback on the Idaho Growth Model draft proposal in relation to SWD.

Questions/Comments

- Nanna expressed enthusiasm for the Growth Model.
- Keith asked about the validity of ISAT being an appropriate measurement for special education students. Rich will ask Dr. Carissa Miller to speak to the panel about that.
- Nanna asked if all students were required to take achievement tests. Beth said there will be exceptions on requiring students to take college entrance exam. Richard suggested it be addressed in the IEP.
- Keith commented that there was a provision for students to take alternate tests on the old NCLB, but the new direction does not align with the fact that some student populations will not go to college.

ESEA and IDEA (OSEP Call 01-11-12)

The strategies relate to College and Career Ready; State Developed Differentiated Recognition, Accountability, and Support; and Supporting Effective Instruction & Leadership. They are under peer review by CCSSO. The ESEA Waiver does not change IDEA. USDOE/OSEP are changing IDEA Part B Indicators.

Questions/Comments

- Keith asked for clarification on "Needs to be incorporated into teacher training/teacher evals." Rich agreed the State needs to be explicit on the plan to do this.
- Per Nanna's question on "Increasing Levels of Intervention", Rich commented there needs to be a process on how students move into increasing levels of support.

Action Items

- Judy - The panel will work on the SEAP comment by the end of the day.
- SEAP - Submit 1 formalized comment by February 1st at <http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/assessment/federalReq/>.

Monitoring and Compliance Overview *Dr. Richard O'Dell, SDE SPED Quality Assurance and Reporting Coordinator*

Handout: [Annual Performance Report \(APR\)](#)

Richard is currently working on the APR with 20 Indicators. Trends:

Indicator 1: Graduation Rate – graduation rate is up.

Indicator 2: Dropout Rate – dropout rate is down.

Indicator 3: AYP and ISAT – showed % participation and % performance.

Indicator 5: Edu. Env. Ages 6-21 – # IEP students dropping, LD dropping, Autism rising, OHI rising, students in Gen Ed dropping.

Indicator 7: Early Childhood Outcomes – dropping.

Indicator 11: Initial Eligibility 60-day Timeline – 18% decrease from 2009.

Indicator 20: Timely and Accurate Reporting – IDEA Part B Indicators are going to be changed in the future.

Morning Overview, Meeting Minutes, & Panel Reflections *Judy Randleman, SEAP Chairperson*

The September 13th Meeting Summary was reviewed and approved. The September 14th Meeting Summary was also reviewed and approved – with 2 corrections to be made.

Action Item

Jan – Add Amanda's correction and Judy's correction to the September 14th Meeting Summary.

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Dispute Resolution Update *Dr. Melanie Reese, SDE Dispute Resolution Coordinator*

[Handout: Office of Dispute Resolution](#)

[Handout: Idaho SDE Dispute Resolution Processes Comparison Chart](#)

Melanie covered:

- Activity Report 2008-2012 (Hearings, Complaints, Mediations, and Facilitations).
- Hearings 2011-2012 (Issues and Status).
- Complaints 2011-2012.
- Founded Allegations - None so far.
- Mediations 2011-2012 – Mediations are up.
- Mediation Issues – Many calls are Autism-related. Complaints are sometimes complaints against the district.
- Facilitations 2011-2012 – Facilitations are down.
- Facilitations by Region.

Melanie requested SEAP approval to reset the goal for successful mediation. After a discussion, the SEAP members gave approval to reset the goal to the Federal Recommended Range of 75-85% for 2012.

There was discussion on how to promote dispute resolution services to schools/parents. Melanie is involved with a project through the Center for Dispute Resolution in Special Education (CADRE) called *Intensive Workgroup for Statewide Improvement of IEP Facilitation*. She wants to gather a team together to work on the project, including parent organizations. Her goal is *inclusion*.

Questions/Comments

Nanna asked if Melanie provides outreach to agencies for clarification/training. Melanie does.

Indicator #8 – Parent Survey *Dr. Keith Allred, Associate Professor & Chair, BSU Dept. of Special Education & ECS*

Dr. Keith Allred presented his research of Indicator #8 Parent Involvement on the 2011 Parent Survey. The survey consisted of a 25-item rating scale (SEPPS) developed by the National Center for Special Education Accountability Monitoring (NCSEAM). Of the parents surveyed from 22 districts, 14.44% (383) of the surveys were returned. That percentage is adequate based on survey sample guidelines, but Keith does not think it is a good representation for Idaho.

Keith noted page 5 of the Executive Summary on Indicator #8: “One third of parents of students with disabilities in Idaho had measures high enough to support the claim that schools facilitate parent involvement at the level deemed desirable and appropriate by the Idaho SDE”. Keith would like to make Indicator #8 more useful to parents/schools and to increase the response rate of the survey, resulting in a better sample size. Keith encouraged an ongoing discussion about the parent survey to continue.

Questions/Comments

- Nanna suggested the online Survey Monkey may increase response rate versus using a paper format.
- Angela mentioned handing out the survey with a pre-addressed envelope at IEP meetings.
- Keith suggested parents may respond better to a phone survey.

A Brief Overview of IDEA Part B Funding *Lester Wyer, SDE Funding and Accountability Coordinator*

Lester reviewed IDEA Part B Funding 101. Every state receives IDEA Part B Funds from 2 sources: Grants to states (ages 3-21) and Grants under preschool program (ages 3-5).

The bulk of federal funding is from grants to states. In 2009-10, that amount nearly doubled due to ARRA funds. With the failure to pass the budget by the federal government, Congress cut education funds, and districts must shift to other funding sources.

The budget control act triggered budget cuts of federal programs. If the 9% cut goes into effect, there will be a \$5 million decrease in funds for Idaho (crisis situation). In Idaho, special education expenditures only average \$7,000 per special education students.

Questions/Comments

- Amanda asked about a federal match. Lester said the MOE is used to determine eligibility for federal funds.
- Judy asked about ARRA funds. Lester said the MOE can be increased by a certain amount. When federal funds are gone, special education services are still needed, so some funds must be shifted to state resources.

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- Regarding Donna's Medicaid funds question, Lester said Medicaid funds are separate from IDEA Part B funds.
- For Judy's 40% funding question, Lester said federal funds nationwide account for 17-18% of the total.

Public Input

No members of the public were present.

Idaho ESEA Flexibility Presentation *Rich Henderson, SDE Special Education Director*

[Handout: Idaho's ESEA Flexibility Application - Executive Summary](#)

Judy recommended a draft by the Executive Committee as input to Idaho's ESEA Flexibility Application.

Keith asked what the implications were to students with disabilities. He wanted to review the entire application before being able to make a recommendation. Donna agreed. Keith also believed a primary issue with special education was the mandate that all students must take a college entrance exam. Another issue was using ISAT as the measure of growth for all students.

Rich said Idaho's attempt is a step to mitigate current laws with NCLB. The idea that all students be included is what we have right now. Beth is on the graduation committee and said there are steps to follow, and there will be exceptions. There will be a mechanism in place for the IEP team to determine whether or not a student would take a college entrance exam. And, for a student taking alternate assessment, Rich mentioned there is a mechanism in place to determine if student should take the ACT/SAT.

Questions/Comments

- Judy asked what Rich wanted from the panel. Rich explained it would be helpful if SEAP would comment as a panel. Individual comments are also encouraged. Idaho's ESEA Flexibility Application is a first draft, and work is in progress.
- Judy commented that SEAP can make a general statement, but not fully endorse since the panel has not yet read the document.

Action Items

- Judy - Get a short drafted statement out to SEAP members to comment on, then the panel summary can be submitted.
- SEAP members - Review the document and give feedback to SDE, even after February 1st. Rich agreed.
- SEAP members - Send Jan comments to compile.
- Jan - Email SEAP members the link to Idaho's ESEA Flexibility Application website.

Meeting Schedule / Frequency *Judy Randleman, SEAP Chairperson*

Consensus was that a 1-day meeting is desirable. No changes to meeting frequency are needed. GoToMeeting was encouraged.

Matt will not be able to attend the April 19th meeting due to a conflict. Concerning our April 19th meeting location. Rich gave guidance to first check the availability of state meeting spaces before looking into hotel meeting spaces. The date of the Executive Committee Meeting will be determined offline.

Wrap-up / Next Meeting Agenda Items *Judy Randleman, SEAP Chairperson*

Rich clarified the SEAP meetings are open to the public to attend, but the SEAP meetings are not public meetings.

Agenda items were identified for April 19th meeting: Annual Performance Report (APR), Final Determination of OSEP Visit (Rich Henderson), Update on MOE Issues (Rich Henderson), Parental Participation in Parent Surveys (Keith Allred), Federal Requirements of SEAP Member Recruitment (Matt Hyde), Nominations & Election of Executive Committee.

Action Item:

- Jan - Email SEAP members the representation percentages of the membership to assist in recruitment activities.
- Jan - Include Rich in the parent calculation because he is a parent of a student with a disability.
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Executive Committee Overview *SEAP Executive Committee*

The Committee agreed there were no items to discuss.